

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	
SUBJECT	The Sofia-Burgas Rail Line	DATE DISTR.	6 August 1954
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This is UNEVALUATED

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. The Sofia-Burgas rail line runs through the following localities: Sofia, Plovdiv, Chirpan, Mikhaylovo, Stara Zagora, Nova Zagora, Yambol, Zimnitsa, Karnobat, and Burgas. It has a length of 460 kilometers and requires a travel time of approximately 10 hours and 30 minutes. It is a single-track, standard-gauge (143 centimeters) line. Trains are drawn by steam locomotives. The line has eight bridges and no tunnels. Repair work on the rails, abutments, etc. is under way along the whole length of the line.
2. The bridge over the Peschenik River located approximately 4.5 kilometers east of Gara Filipovo (N 42-10, E 24-45, Plovdiv North Station), has the following characteristics:
 - a. Type of bridge: Metal, girder type, two spans of 30 meters each.
 - b. Abutments and piles: Stone masonry.
 - c. Length: 70 meters.
 - d. Width: 8 meters.
 - e. Height above river bed: 6 meters.
 - f. Service paths: 2 side paths each 1.5 meters wide, paved with wood.
 - g. Side walls: Metal, with railings.
 - h. Capacity: 2,500 kilograms per square meter.
 - i. Supports: Equalizing bed type.
 - j. Current: Slow.

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(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#".)

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- k. High water mark: 3 meters.
 - l. Low water mark: 30 centimeters.
 - m. Slope of banks: 40°.
3. The bridge over the Struma River located approximately seven kilometers east of the preceding bridge has the following characteristics:
- a. Type of bridge: Metal, girder type, three spans of 20 meters each.
 - b. Girders: Rectilinear girders, continuous-trellis type, 6 meters high, joined by hinges.
 - c. Abutments and piles: Stone masonry.
 - d. Length: 70-76 meters.
 - e. Width: 8 meters.
 - f. Height above river bed: 8 meters.
 - g. Service paths: 2 side paths each 1.5 meters wide, paved with wood.
 - h. Capacity: 2,500 kilograms per square meter.
 - i. Supports: Equalizing bed type.
 - j. Current: Slow.
 - k. High water mark: 2 meters.
 - l. Low water mark: 40 centimeters.
 - m. Slope of banks: 40°.
4. The bridge over the Tundzha River located seven kilometers north of the railroad station of Yambol (N 42-29, E 26-30) has the following characteristics:
- a. Type of bridge: Metal, girder type, with four spans of 15 meters each.
 - b. Abutments and piles: Stone masonry.
 - c. Length: 72 meters.
 - d. Width: 8 meters.
 - e. Height above river bed: 8-9 meters.
 - f. Service paths: 2 side paths each 1.5 meters wide, paved with wood.
 - g. Side walls: Metal, with railings.
 - h. Capacity: 2,500 kilograms per square meter.
 - i. Supports: Equalizing bed type.

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- j. Current: Very slow.
 - k. High water mark: 2-2.5 meters.
 - l. Low water mark: 50 centimeters.
 - m. Slope of banks: 40°.
5. The bridge located over an unidentified stream located 4-5 kilometers east of the Zimnitsa railroad station (N 42-35, E 26-36) has the following characteristics:
- a. Type of bridge: Metal, girder type, two spans of 20 meters each.
 - b. Abutments and piles: Stone masonry.
 - c. Length: 50 meters.
 - d. Width: 8 meters.
 - e. Height above river bed: 10 meters.
 - f. Service paths: 2 side paths each 1.5 meters wide, paved with wood.
 - g. Side walls: Metal, with railings.
 - h. Capacity: 2,500 kilograms per square meter.
 - i. Supports: Not known.
 - j. Current: Slow.
 - k. High water mark: Not known.
 - l. Low water mark: 40 centimeters.
 - m. Slope of banks: 40°.
6. The bridge over the Azmak Dere River located approximately 10 kilometers west of Karnobat (N 42-39, E 26-59) has the following characteristics:
- a. Type of bridge: Metal, girder type, two spans of 15 meters each.
 - b. Abutments and piles: Stone masonry.
 - c. Length: 36 meters.
 - d. Width: 8 meters.
 - e. Height above river bed: 8-9 meters.
 - f. Service paths: 2 side paths each 1.5 meters wide, paved with wood.
 - g. Side walls: Metal, with railings.
 - h. Capacity: 2,500 kilograms per square meter.

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- i. Supports: Equalizing bed type.
 - j. Current: Slow.
 - k. High water mark: Not known.
 - l. Low water mark: 40 centimeters.
 - m. Slope of banks: 50°.
7. The bridge over the Aytos River located approximately eight kilometers west of Aytos (N 42-42, E 27-16) has the following characteristics:
- a. Type of bridge: Metal, with three spans of 15 meters each.
 - b. Abutments and piles: Stone masonry.
 - c. Length: 60 meters.
 - d. Width: 8 meters.
 - e. Height above river bed: 8-9 meters.
 - f. Service paths: 2 side paths each 1.5 meters wide, paved with wood.
 - g. Side walls: Metal, with railings.
 - h. Capacity: 2,500 kilograms per square meter.
 - i. Supports: Equalizing bed type.
 - j. Current: Rather fast.
 - k. High water mark: 3 meters.
 - l. Low water mark: 50 centimeters.
 - m. Slope of banks: 50°.
8. The bridge over the Repotamo River located eight or nine kilometers south of the railroad station of Aytos has the following characteristics:
- a. Type of bridge: Metal, girder type, two spans of 15 meters each.
 - b. Abutments and piles: Stone masonry.
 - c. Length: 36 meters.
 - d. Width: 8 meters.
 - e. Height above river bed: 8 meters.
 - f. Service paths: 2 side paths each 1.5 meters wide, paved with wood.
 - g. Side walls: Metal, with railings.

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- h. Capacity: 2,500 kilograms per square meter.
 - i. Supports: Equalizing bed type.
 - j. Current: Slow.
 - k. High water mark: 2 meters.
 - l. Low water mark: 40 centimeters.
 - m. Slope of banks: 50°.
9. Details of the other bridge along this line, located over the Syutulka River between the bridges described in paragraphs 4 and 5 above, are unknown to informant.



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